



## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

### Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation - Phase 7 Laws of Minnesota 2021 Accomplishment Plan

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#### General Information

**Date:** 05/17/2023

**Project Title:** Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation - Phase 7

**Funds Recommended:** \$2,651,000

**Legislative Citation:** ML 2021, First Sp. Session, Ch. 1, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd. 2(n)

**Appropriation Language:** \$2,651,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on public lands and easements in the Anoka Sand Plain ecoregion and intersecting minor watersheds as follows: \$418,000 is to the Anoka Conservation District; \$700,000 is to Great River Greening; \$233,000 is to The Nature Conservancy; and \$1,300,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust, of which up to \$168,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing monitoring and enforcement funds as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

#### Manager Information

**Manager's Name:** Wiley Buck

**Title:** Senior Program Manager

**Organization:** Great River Greening

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#### Location Information

**County Location(s):** Isanti, Chisago, Anoka, Benton, Stearns, Morrison and Sherburne.

**Eco regions in which work will take place:**

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Metro / Urban

**Activity types:**

- Protect in Easement
- Restore
- Enhance

**Priority resources addressed by activity:**

- Wetlands
- Prairie
- Forest
- Habitat

**Narrative****Abstract**

The Anoka Sand Plain (ASP) Partnership will protect 240 acres of habitat through conservation easement, and restore/enhance 452 acres of Prairie/Oak Savanna, Wetland, and fire-dependent Woodland/Forest habitats within the ASP Ecological Region program boundary, including rescue of 48,000 rare plants to protected areas. These actions will increase biodiversity, habitat connectivity, recreational opportunities, and landscape resilience, which align with the ASP Partnership's strategic plan, DNR Wildlife Action Plan and LSOHC Section priorities. GRG, ACD, MLT, and TNC are the four direct recipient organizations, with significant match from USFWS, Morrison County, and landowner donation of easement value.

**Design and Scope of Work**

The Anoka Sand Plain Ecoregion watershed, capturing portions of the Metropolitan Urbanizing, Forest/Prairie Transition, and Northern Forest sections, is a marvelously complex mosaic of habitats, home to quality prairie and savanna, wetlands, fire-dependent forests and woodlands, designated wild and scenic rivers, and a high concentration of rare species. The amount of high quality remnant habitat in the ASP is remarkable given its proximity to Twin Cities Metropolitan area. While the location of the ASP provides easy access for many Minnesotans, the associated stressors threaten the ASP's sustainability. The ecological diversity of the ASP is threatened by invasive species and development pressure.

The diversity in this rich and important mosaic, complemented by its close proximity to most Minnesotans, is reflected in the number and diversity of organizations that identify the area as a priority, combining our specific knowledge and stakeholder engagement to join forces for its conservation. The robust ASP Partnership is committed to protecting, restoring and enhancing this spectacular region so it can continue to provide vital habitat, invaluable ecological services, and high-quality recreational and engagement opportunities. Bringing clarity and focus to our Phase 7 and all of our work in this complex area is the ASP Partnership's 10-year strategic plan, which aligns with other important plans to identify priority habitats, opportunities, and centers of biodiversity, and a plan of action with measurable goals.

With this funding, Anoka Conservation District (ACD), Great River Greening (GRG), Minnesota Land Trust (MLT), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), with support from other partners, will secure conservation easements on 240 acres to expand habitat cores and corridors, and complete restoration and enhancement (R/E) on 452 acres of public and protected private sites. Habitats including prairie/savanna grasslands, woodland, and non-forested peat wetlands.

Results will be achieved by restoring historic hydrology, conducting invasive species removal, prescribed burning, thinning, seeding, and planting including the launch of a Rare Plant Rescue program to transplant up to 48,000 rare plants that would otherwise be destroyed by development. Our program will create and improve critical habitat by increasing biodiversity and landscape resilience. It will also benefit water quality and quantity, improve community resiliency, and increase recreational opportunities.

**How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?**

The Anoka Sand Plain serves as a refuge for many globally unique species and rare plant communities, including roughly one-third of Minnesota's listed rare plant and animals, and 97 known or predicted SGCN, and 131 federally or state endangered, threatened, or special concern. The MN County Biological Survey ranks 72,000 acres in the ASP as Outstanding or High Biodiversity. This proposal addresses LSOHC priorities by protecting and restoring/enhancing oak savanna, prairie, riparian, woodlands, and non-forested wetlands.

For ASP7, we are proposing R/E on following DNR Wildlife Action Plan Target Habitats and Target Species habitats in the Anoka Sand Plain: 151 acres of prairie/savanna grasslands; 248 acres of non-forested wetlands/peatlands; 51 acres of woodlands; 2 acres of habitat; and protection of 240 acres of habitat.

**SGCN SPECIES ASSOCIATED WITH THESE ASP7 HABITATS ARE:**

**8 BIRD SPECIES:**

Eastern meadowlark  
Grasshopper sparrow  
Brown Thrasher  
Eastern towhee  
Eastern whip-poor-will  
Field sparrow  
Lark sparrow  
Red-headed woodpecker

**2 MAMMAL SPECIES:**

American badger  
Plains pocket mouse

**4 REPTILE SPECIES:**

Blanding's turtle  
Gophersnake  
Plains hog-nosed snake  
Smooth greensnake

**5 INVERTEBRATE SPECIES:**

Dusted skipper  
Leonard's skipper  
Uncas skipper  
Pelegrina arizonensis (a jumping spider)

Northern barrens tiger beetle

STATE LISTED (T/E/SC) OR OTHERWISE RARE SPECIES DOCUMENTED AT ASP7 IDENTIFIED R/E PROJECT SITES:

8 BIRD SPECIES:

Red-shouldered Hawk  
Hooded Warbler  
American Bittern  
Lark Sparrow  
Golden winged warbler  
Veery  
Acadian flycatcher  
Cerulean warbler

2 MAMMAL SPECIES:

Northern Long-eared Bat  
Plains Pocket Mouse

4 REPTILE SPECIES:

Eastern Hognose Snake  
Gopher snake  
Blanding's turtle  
Plains Hognose Snake

1 INVERTEBRATE SPECIES:

A Jumping Spider

15 VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES:

Yellow Bartonian  
Water-willow  
Rhombic Evening Primrose  
Bristle-berry  
Ginseng  
Tuberclad rein-orchid  
Cross-leaved Milkwort  
Kitten-tails  
Hill's Thistle  
Blunt Sedge  
Autumn Fimbristylis  
Swamp Blackberry  
Clinton's Bulrush  
Cowbane  
Small-leaved pussytoes

**RARE PLANT RESCUE PROGRAM:**

An estimated 48,000 specimens of the following 8 VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES are anticipated to be successfully translocated to protected habitats in this program:

Bristleberry  
 Cross-leaved Milkwort  
 Kitten-tails  
 Lance-leaf Violet  
 Swamp Blackberry  
 Toothcup  
 Tubercled Rein Orchid  
 Twisted Yellow-eyed Grass

**Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:**

The ASP Partnership 10 - Year Strategic Conservation Action Plan utilizes multiple-criteria GIS analyses to identify and prioritize critical areas for habitat connectivity, SGCN, biodiversity, and native plant communities. Data layers include: 1. Top 95% of SGCN population composite 2. Good or excellent populations of state or federally endangered and threatened species 3. Richness hotspots falling outside the top 95 percent of populations 4. Marxan outputs from the Scientific and Natural Area strategic plan 5. Sites of Biodiversity Significance that intersect with Marxan outputs 6. Native plant communities: Minnesota Department of Nature Resources – Division of Ecological and Water Resources – Biological Survey. MNDNR Native Plant Communities. 2014.

The sites and actions included in this proposal will combat the threats of habitat fragmentation, degradation and invasive species. These were identified in Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan and LSOHC: 25-year framework as the priority actions needed to address significant challenges facing SGCN and landscape resilience in the ASP region. A total of 100 acres of R/E are on MCBS areas identified as High or Outstanding Biodiversity, and an estimated 50 additional acres protected.

**Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?**

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

**Which two other plans are addressed in this program?**

- Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

**Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?**

**Forest / Prairie Transition**

- Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

**Metro / Urban**

- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna with an emphasis on areas with high biological diversity

### **Northern Forest**

- Restore and enhance habitat on existing protected properties, with preference to habitat for rare, endangered, or threatened species identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey

## **Outcomes**

### **Programs in forest-prairie transition region:**

- Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need ~ *Perform*

*ecological monitoring using DNR protocol and evaluate data; adapt management when and where needed. Record number*

*of acres protected of high quality habitat on private lands, which buffer public lands and expand habitat cores and corridors; and number of*

*acres of key habitat successfully restored / enhanced. Map project sites and periodically perform GIS analysis to help quantify impact on habitat*

*complexes.*

### **Programs in metropolitan urbanizing region:**

- Core areas protected with highly biologically diverse wetlands and plant communities, including native prairie, Big Woods, and oak savanna ~ *Perform*

*ecological monitoring using DNR protocol and evaluate data; adapt management when and where needed. Record number of acres protected*

*of high quality habitat on private lands, which buffer public lands and expand habitat cores and corridors; and number of acres of key habitat*

*successfully restored / enhanced. Map project sites and periodically perform GIS analysis to help quantify impact on habitat cores and corridors.*

### **Programs in the northern forest region:**

- Healthy populations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species as well as more common species ~ *Perform*

*ecological monitoring using DNR protocol and evaluate data; adapt management when and where needed. Record number*

*of acres protected of high quality habitat on private lands, which buffer public lands and expand habitat cores and corridors; and number of*

*acres of key habitat successfully restored / enhanced. Map project sites and periodically perform GIS analysis to help quantify impact on habitat*

*complexes.*

### Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

### Explain the leverage:

USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program/Mississippi Headwaters initiative, \$2,000 cash and \$4,000 in-kind for wetland restoration.

\$10,000 cash from Morrison County Parks for Belle Prairie II.

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in-kind valued at \$10,000 for Rare Plant Rescue program.

Through its market-based RFP process, the Minnesota Land Trust expects private landowners to donate at least \$160,000 in easement value toward the program, which is shown as leverage.

Non-realized portion of DSS from ACD and GRG organizations, as in-kind.

Leverage from landowners and partner organizations underscores their shared interest and commitment. For example, the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is a center for horticulture and plant research, and partner with the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) to create a long-term genetically diverse seed bank of rare plant species as well as developing an understanding of how best to propagate and out-plant each species.

### Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This proposal to LSOHC for Outdoor Heritage Fund support does not supplant any other sources of funds. In all cases, this proposal and the projects to be completed accelerate regional habitat work in the Anoka Sand Plain.

### Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
various	State of Minnesota General Fund, Bonding, Trust Fund, etc for WMA and SNA purchase, restoration, enhancement, and management.	-
2014	Morrison County - Belle Prairie Phase I match	\$24,000
various	City of Blaine (Rare Plant Rescue recipient site) Tax Levy, Park Dedication Fees, Open Space Referendum, Blaine Wetland Sanctuary I and II match	\$9,019,000
2017	Trust Fund leverage for Blaine Wetland Sanctuary I and II match	\$25,000

## How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

The ASP Partnership is committed to working with respective land management agencies and owners, and conservation organizations in an on-going basis to identify and procure financial resources for maintaining these improvements as needed.

Land protected through MLT conservation easements will be sustained through state-of-the-art standards and practices for conservation easement stewardship that includes annual property monitoring, effective records management, addressing inquiries and interpretations, tracking changes in ownership, investigating potential violations and defending the easement in case of a true violation. Funding for these easement stewardship activities is included in the project budget.

For R/E on existing protected land, site specific resource management plans will be utilized (and developed, if not already in place) to guide effective long-term management of targeted habitats and species. All land managers associated with R/E and rare plant rescue sites must commit to the long-term maintenance of these habitat improvements in line with prescribed actions. A principle management goal for each site is to bring them to a threshold where on-going management costs are diminished, before the end of the grant period. For the sites and programs that use volunteers, community stakeholder engagement is increased providing an additional layer of stakeholder monitoring.

## Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2026	MLT Long Term Stewardship and Enforcement Fund	Annual Monitoring of Easements	Enforcement as Necessary	-
2028	GRG in-kind	Monitoring every 2-3 years	Landowner Engagement	-
2028	DNR in-kind	Rx Burning	Spot herbicide treatment	-
2028	Anoka Agriculture Preserves	Monitor every 2-3 years	Followup treatment	-
2029	Anoka County Parks	Prescribed burn	Spot herbicide treatment	-
2029	City of Blaine (Rare Plant Recipient Site)	Prescribed burn	Spot herbicide treatment	Spot herbicide treatments
2026	TNC, USFWS, SWCDs	Evaluate restoration based on initial restoration plan	Provide technical assistance to the landowner/operator as necessary	-

## Activity Details

## Requirements

**If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056?**

Yes

**Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) free of any other permanent protection?**

Yes



**Who will manage the easement?**

MLT will manage the easement.

**Who will be the easement holder?**

MLT will be the easement holder.

**What is the anticipated number of easements (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?**

MLT estimates that it will close on 3-6 conservation easements depending on size/cost and the amount of donated easement value provided by landowners.

**Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?**

Yes

**Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?**

Yes

**Where does the activity take place?**

- WMA
- Permanently Protected Conservation Easements
- County/Municipal
- Other : U of M, Cedar Creek Conservation Area
- Public Waters
- State Recreation Areas

**Land Use**

**Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program?**

Yes

**Explain what will be planted:**

Easement Acquisition:

The purpose of the Minnesota Land Trust's conservation easements is to protect existing high quality natural habitat and to

preserve opportunities for future restoration. As such, we restrict any agricultural lands and use on the properties. In cases in

which there are agricultural lands associated with the larger property, we will either carve the agricultural area out of the

conservation easement, or in some limited cases, we may include a small percentage of agricultural lands if it is not feasible to carve

those areas out. In such cases, however, we will not use OHF funds to pay the landowners for that portion of the conservation

easement.

Restoration:

Short-term use of agricultural crops is an accepted best practice for preparing a site for prairie restoration, in order to reduce weed

seedbeds prior to prairie planting. In some cases this necessitates the use of GMO treated products to facilitate herbicide use in

order to control weeds present in the seedbank.

**Will the eased land be open for public use?**

No

**Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?**

Yes

**Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:**

Most conservation easements are established on private lands, many of which have driveways, field roads and trails located on them. Often, the conservation easement permits the continued usage of established trails and roads so long as their use does not significantly impact the conservation values of the property. Creation of new roads/trails or expansion of existing ones is typically not allowed.

**Will the trails or roads remain and uses continue to be allowed after OHF acquisition?**

Yes

**How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished?**

The land protected through conservation easements will be sustained through state-of-the-art standards and practices for conservation easement stewardship that includes annual property monitoring, effective records management, addressing inquiries and interpretations, tracking changes in ownership, investigating potential violations and defending the easement in case of a true violation. Funding for these easement stewardship activities is included in the project budget.

**Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?**

No

**Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?**

No

If the need for R/E on eased lands exists, MLT will budget to address this need in future proposals to LSOHC or through other sources.

**Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this program's funding and availability?**

No

**Explain how, when, and source of the R/E work:**

If the need for R/E on eased lands exists, MLT will budget to address this need in future proposals to LSOHC or through other sources.

**Timeline**

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
ACD: R&E Project planning, prairie herbicide treatment	12/31/2021
ACD: Initial tree and shrub harvest/removal, reed canary grass treatment, prairie prescribed burn, native seeding; Rare plant rescue: Identify rare plant populations to rescue and transplant into ecologically suitable host sites.	12/31/2022
ACD: Woody invasive treatment, reed canary grass treatment, 3 ditch plugs and wetland scrape, seed wetland and prairie; Rare plant rescue: Identify rare plant populations to rescue and transplant into ecologically suitable host sites, develop and implement monitoring protocol	12/31/2023
ACD: Woody invasive treatment, reed canary grass treatment, establishment mow, prairie establishment mow and spot treatment, followup herbicide spot treatment, wetland seeding; Rare plant rescue: Identify rare plant populations to rescue and transplant into ecologically suitable host sites, monitor sites with transplants	12/31/2024
ACD: R&E monitoring and followup treatments; Rare plant rescue: Identify rare plant populations to rescue and transplant into ecologically suitable host sites, monitor sites with transplants, analyze rare plant rescue results	12/31/2025
ACD: Finalize and distribute MN DNR approved rare species specific rescue and conservation plans for 6 - 10 rare species; Final Report	12/31/2026
ACD: R&E followup treatments, prepare host sites and transplant harvested rare plants	6/30/2025
ACD: Final Report (including documentation on rare plant rescue project)	6/30/2026
GRG: Project planning, secure landowner agreements	12/31/2021
GRG: Site prep, initial brushing, initial wave of buckthorn control	6/30/2022
GRG: Site prep	11/1/2023
GRG: Follow up brushing, follow up buckthorn control; old field seeding, planting	6/30/2024
GRG: Follow up brushing, supplemental forb planting, prescribed burns	6/30/2025
GRG: Savanna establishment, Monitoring, follow-up treatments	6/30/2026
MLT: Protection of 240 acres of land through conservation easement	6/30/2025
TNC: Identify potential sites	6/30/2023
TNC: Landowner Outreach - SWCD Contract	6/30/2024
TNC: Prioritize and select projects and complete designs	6/30/2025
TNC: Complete wetland restorations and enhancements	6/30/2026

**Date of Final Report Submission:** 11/01/2026

**Availability of Appropriation:** Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor

Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. For acquiring real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2025. Money for restoration or enhancement is available until June 30, 2026. Money for restoration and enhancement of land acquired with an appropriation in this article is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2029. If a project receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds, the time of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan. Money appropriated for acquiring land in fee title may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

**Budget**

*Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan.*

**Grand Totals Across All Partnerships**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$364,000	\$5,000	-	\$369,000
Contracts	\$1,042,200	\$14,500	-, UMLA, CCES, USFWS in-kind	\$1,056,700
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$766,000	\$160,000	-, Landowner donation of easement value	\$926,000
Easement Stewardship	\$168,000	-	-	\$168,000
Travel	\$13,000	-	-	\$13,000
Professional Services	\$172,000	-	-	\$172,000
Direct Support Services	\$100,100	\$82,800	-, Great River Greening, ACD	\$182,900
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$1,100	-	-	\$1,100
Supplies/Materials	\$24,600	\$8,000	-, Morrison County, USFWS, ACD	\$32,600
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$2,651,000</b>	<b>\$270,300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$2,921,300</b>

**Partner: Great River Greening****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$64,500	\$5,000	-	\$69,500
Contracts	\$585,800	-	-	\$585,800
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$4,000	-	-	\$4,000
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$42,200	\$51,500	Great River Greening	\$93,700
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$900	-	-	\$900
Supplies/Materials	\$2,600	\$5,000	Morrison County	\$7,600
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$61,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$761,500</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
GRG Staff	0.15	5.0	\$64,500	\$5,000	Morrison County Parks	\$69,500

**Partner: Anoka Conservation District****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$161,000	-	-	\$161,000
Contracts	\$223,900	\$10,500	UMLA, CCES	\$234,400
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	-	-	-	-
Direct Support Services	\$14,600	\$31,300	ACD	\$45,900
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$18,500	\$1,000	ACD	\$19,500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$418,000</b>	<b>\$42,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$460,800</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
ACD Staff	0.6	5.0	\$161,000	-	-	\$161,000

**Partner: Minnesota Land Trust****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000
Contracts	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$766,000	\$160,000	Landowner donation of easement value	\$926,000
Easement Stewardship	\$168,000	-	-	\$168,000
Travel	\$9,000	-	-	\$9,000
Professional Services	\$149,000	-	-	\$149,000
Direct Support Services	\$27,000	-	-	\$27,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$1,000	-	-	\$1,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,300,000</b>	<b>\$160,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,460,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
MLT Staff	0.25	4.0	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000



**Partner: The Nature Conservancy****Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$38,500	-	-	\$38,500
Contracts	\$152,500	\$4,000	USFWS in-kind	\$156,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Professional Services	\$23,000	-	-	\$23,000
Direct Support Services	\$16,300	-	-	\$16,300
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$200	-	-	\$200
Supplies/Materials	\$2,500	\$2,000	USFWS	\$4,500
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$233,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$239,000</b>

**Personnel**

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
TNC Staff	0.09	5.0	\$38,500	-	-	\$38,500

**Amount of Request:** \$2,651,000**Amount of Leverage:** \$270,300**Leverage as a percent of the Request:** 10.2%**DSS + Personnel:** \$464,100**As a % of the total request:** 17.51%**Easement Stewardship:** \$168,000**As a % of the Easement Acquisition:** 21.93%**How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?**

Recipients have largely taken proportional cuts. Programs have been reduced in scale, parcels dropped and other parcels scaled. Outputs have been reduced accordingly, with modest loss of economy of scale. NWTF has opted out and will return when economy of scale can be recaptured; NWTF remains active in ASP4&6.

**Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:**

Morrison County and USFWS have confirmed their leverage in writing.

U of MN Landscape Arboretum has verbally confirmed their in-kind match.

The MLT landowner leverage amount is a conservative estimate of value we expect donated by landowners

ACD and GRG have counted the unrealized portion of DSS as in-kind

## Personnel

### Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

#### **Please explain the overlap of past and future staffing and position levels previously received and how that is coordinated over multiple years?**

ACD tracks personnel/ staff time with an hours log, where we record our time for each unique project and then uses pivot tables to sum staff hours each Quarter x their rate.

GRG: Each allocation is operationalized, budgeted, and tracked independently. Projects under each allocation are unique, and only actual personnel time is charged to these unique projects and allocations.

MLT: FTEs listed in the proposal are a coarse estimate of the personnel time required to produce the grant deliverables put forward in this proposal. An array of staff draw from these funds for legal work, negotiating with landowners, crafting of conservation easements, writing baseline reports and managing the grant. We use only those personnel funds necessary to achieve the goals of the grant.

NWTF tracks personnel time specific to an allocation via an internal Mission Management System. Projects are differentiated with unique project numbers and separately tracked.

This is TNC's first time as a direct recipient in the Anoka Sand Plain partnership proposal; there is no overlap of staffing with previous allocations.

## Contracts

### What is included in the contracts line?

The bulk of R/E contracts are for CCM and/or for-profit firms to implement field activities. Other R/E contracts include SWCD outreach contracts for wetland program, and rare plant monitoring.

For easement protection, contract amounts are for the writing of habitat management plans

## Easement Stewardship

### **What is the number of easements anticipated, cost per easement for stewardship, and explain how that amount is calculated?**

MLT estimates that it will close on 3-6 conservation easements depending on size/cost and the amount of donated easement value provided by landowners. The average cost per easement to fund the Minnesota Land Trust's perpetual monitoring and enforcement obligations is \$24,000. This figure is derived from MLT's detailed stewardship funding "cost analysis" which is consistent with Land Trust Accreditation standards. MLT shares periodic updates to this cost analysis with LSOHC staff.

## Travel

### Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

Yes

**Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging**

Car rental may be used to contain travel costs, on occasion.

**I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:**

Yes

**Direct Support Services****How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?**

ACD: ACD is requesting 10% DSS and listing the remaining 20.25% as match. ACD calculated their rate following USDA guidelines and has submitted their methodology to DNR for review. DNR has no objections to their rate in their preliminary analysis.

GRG: In a process approved by DNR in September 2019, GRG's direct support services rate includes all allowable direct and necessary expenditures not captured in other line items in the budget. Our DSS request to LSOHC is less than half the amount allowed by the DNR approved rate, and less than or equal to 10% of the total allocation request.

MLT: In a process approved by DNR on March 17, 2017, Minnesota Land Trust determined our direct support services rate to include all of the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget, which is similar to the Land Trust's proposed federal indirect rate. We will apply this DNR-approved rate only to personnel expenses to determine the total amount of direct support services.

TNC: DSS is based on The Nature Conservancy's Federal Negotiated Rate (FNR) as proposed and approved by the US Dept. of Interior on an annual basis. In this proposal we are requesting reimbursement of 7.5% of eligible base costs as determined by our annual FNR and based on suggestions from the Council in prior years' hearings. The amount requested for reimbursement represents less than one-third of the total reimbursable costs allowed under the FNR. Examples of expenses included in the FNR include services from in-house legal counsel; finance, human resources; and information technology support, all of which contribute directly to the implementation of the project.

**Other Equipment/Tools****Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?**

Power and hand tools; burn equipment; GPS systems; Personal Protective Equipment.

**Federal Funds****Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?**

Yes

**Are the funds confirmed?**

Yes

**Is Confirmation Document attached?**

[Yes](#)

- Cash : \$2,000
- In Kind : \$4,000



Output Tables**Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	25	-	-	-	25
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	240	240
Enhance	223	151	51	2	427
<b>Total</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>692</b>

**Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	\$100,000	-	-	-	\$100,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000
Enhance	\$576,000	\$290,300	\$135,000	\$249,700	\$1,251,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$676,000</b>	<b>\$290,300</b>	<b>\$135,000</b>	<b>\$1,549,700</b>	<b>\$2,651,000</b>

**Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	15	10	-	-	-	25
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	120	120	-	-	-	240
Enhance	248	64	-	-	115	427
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>692</b>

**Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	\$67,000	\$33,000	-	-	-	\$100,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	\$650,000	\$650,000	-	-	-	\$1,300,000
Enhance	\$703,100	\$280,000	-	-	\$267,900	\$1,251,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,420,100</b>	<b>\$963,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$267,900</b>	<b>\$2,651,000</b>

**Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	\$4,000	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$5,416
Enhance	\$2,582	\$1,922	\$2,647	\$124,850

**Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)**

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	\$4,466	\$3,300	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-

Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	\$5,416	\$5,416	-	-	-
Enhance	\$2,835	\$4,375	-	-	\$2,329

### Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

## Parcels

*For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.*

### Parcel Information

#### Sign-up Criteria?

[Yes - Sign up criteria is attached](#)

#### Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

The ASP Partnership 10 - Year Strategic Conservation Action Plan utilizes multiple-criteria GIS analyses to identify and prioritize critical areas for habitat connectivity, SGCN, biodiversity, and native plant communities. For the ASP partnership's strategic plan, multiple-criteria decision analyses in GIS were performed to identify and prioritize critical areas for habitat using data sources layers that capture habitat connectivity, habitats that support species in greatest conservation need, terrestrial and aquatic sites of biodiversity, potential locations of groundwater influenced shallow wetlands, and native plant communities.

Partners used their local expertise, knowledge, and landowner contacts to identify parcels and scope out the activities. DNR parcels were submitted to DNR for review. At multiples points in the process, the direct recipients reviewed the parcel list collectively and culled parcels that did not rank highly on the Strategic Plan criteria.

Note that in addition the parcels below, we have 3 programs included in this proposal: Rare Plant Rescue led by ACD, MLT Easements, and Wetland Restoration led by TNC. The criteria for parcel selection under these programs are included as attachments. At multiples points in the process, the direct recipients reviewed the program criteria collectively.

### Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
ACD - Carl E. Bonnell WMA	Anoka	03425227	28	\$52,000	Yes
ACD - Cedar Creek Conservation Area	Anoka	03324232	6	\$20,000	Yes
GRG - Carlos Avery WMA	Anoka	03421214	38	\$89,800	-
ACD - Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Phase 2	Anoka	03423227	30	\$96,300	Yes
GRG - Bend in the River Phase 1	Benton	03731204	30	\$106,000	Yes
GRG - Wild Rose WMA	Chisago	03621209	85	\$162,000	Yes
GRG - Allemansratt Wilderness Park, Island Addition	Chisago	03420227	3	\$45,000	Yes
GRG - Ripley Esker SNA	Morrison	04231218	40	\$129,600	Yes
GRG - Belle Prairie County Park Phase 2	Morrison	04132214	43	\$148,300	Yes
GRG - Sand Prairie WMEEA	Sherburne	03530208	130	\$194,000	Yes
GRG - Quarry Park SNA Phase 1	Stearns	12428230	9	\$35,000	Yes

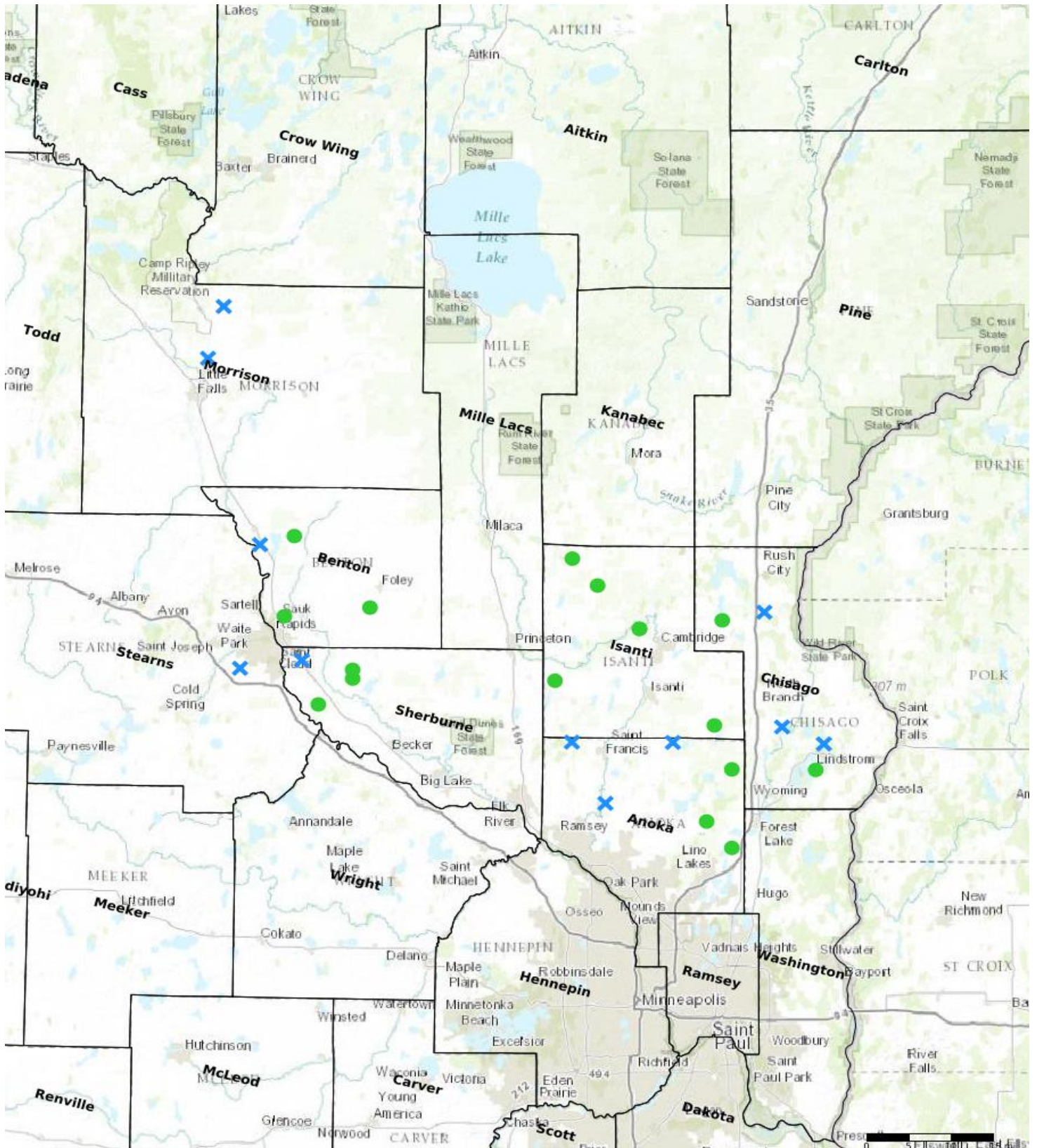
### Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing
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					Protection
MLT - Coon Creek	Anoka	03222208	75	\$97,000	No
MLT - Sunrise River 3	Anoka	03222426	48	\$175,000	No
MLT - Sunrise River	Anoka	03322211	80	\$0	No
MLT - Pull Meadow	Benton	03724230	220	\$100,000	No
MLT - Little Rock Lake	Benton	03830231	120	\$300,000	No
MLT - Stony Brook	Benton	03629210	73	\$219,000	No
MLT - Goose Lake	Chisago	03622215	65	\$0	No
MLT - Kroon Lake	Chisago	03320209	17	\$100,000	No
MLT - Tennyson Lake 2	Isanti	03529220	77	\$96,000	No
MLT - Rum River 2	Isanti	03624224	40	\$73,700	No
MLT - Rum River	Isanti	03624224	30	\$66,500	No
MLT - Tennyson Lake	Isanti	03529217	158	\$157,080	No
MLT - Tennyson Lake (Barrett 3)	Isanti	03525220	82	\$41,975	No
MLT - Stanchfield Creek 1	Isanti	03631213	149	\$300,000	No
MLT - Stanchfield Creek 2	Isanti	03725210	40	\$100,000	No
MLT - Twin Lakes	Isanti	03422216	40	\$0	No
MLT - Pickerel Lake	Sherburne	03430203	46	\$150,000	No



## Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other